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INSIDE

FOCUS: INFECTION CONTROL

SPOTLIGHT: BUILDING EXTERIORS

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CONSTRUCTION CONTAINMENT

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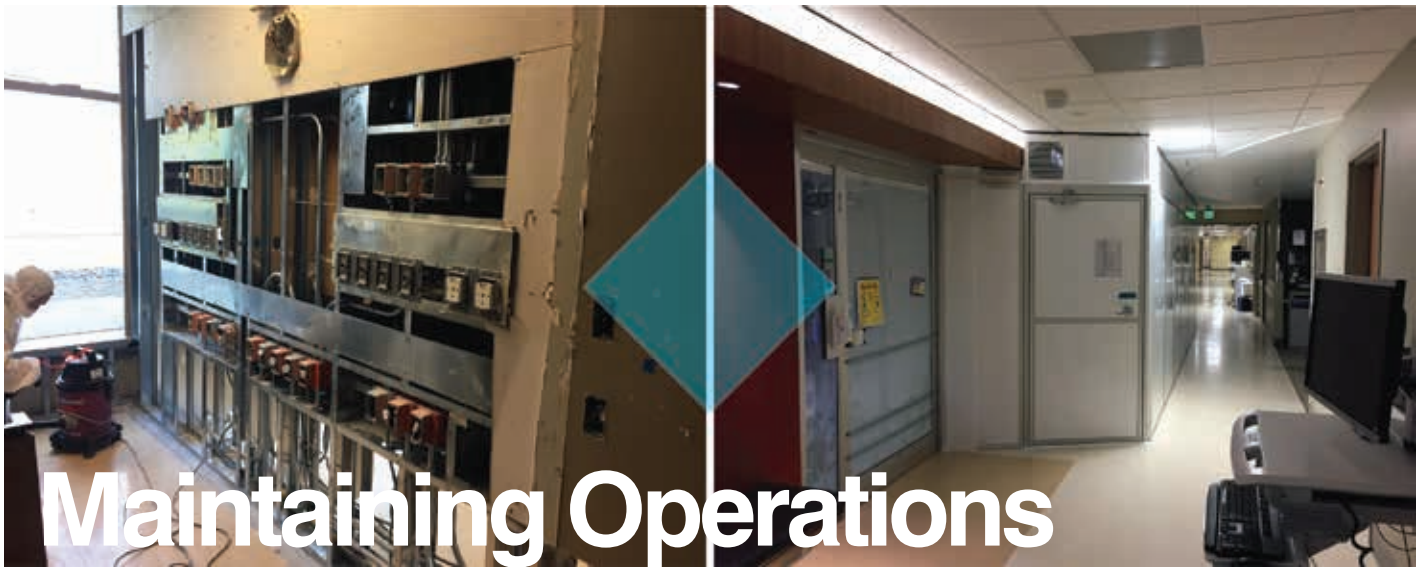
University of Kansas Health System Cambridge Tower A



Maintaining Operations

Compliant containment system outperforms in healthcare facility restoration

CONTAINMENT SYSTEMS

When two separate Seattle, Washington area healthcare facilities suffered extensive water damage, a local restoration company, Bales Restoration, a DKI member, was contracted to assess the damage and provide remediation and renovation services to the affected areas. As it is necessary for facility operations to continue without disruption, containment is a critical part of an effective ICRA protocol.

Project 1 | situation: Extensive water damage to multiple patient rooms

The first project took place in an ICU ward where extensive water damage caused by an overhead leak traveled down into multiple rooms. The restoration company was initially brought in to assess four affected rooms. During the inspection, damage was discovered in two additional rooms.

The team was then contracted to perform multiple inspections every two weeks (across 80 rooms) to check for potential and/or existing issues. Thermal imaging was used to inspect walls to determine which areas had been impacted. In multiple areas, it was found that water had become trapped between the insulation and vapor barrier in the walls, resulting in a buildup of contaminated water.

In those spaces, patients were immediately moved to a safe area and STARC Systems' ICRA Class IV compliant temporary containment panels were erected to enable the crew to begin controlled removal of the damaged material, perform disinfection and begin renovation.

Equipment used by the crew included saws, vacuums, rolling carts and particle counters. Noise control was critical since it negatively impacts the patient's experience in the adjacent ICU. Noise attenuation properties provided by the STARC barrier system proved significant during the project. The containment panels provided the necessary level of anonymity for continued patient comfort and safety.

Project 2 | situation: Water damage in sterile operating room

The second project was a medical facility that specializes in plastic and cosmetic surgery where a roof/envelope failure resulted in extensive water damage in the facility's signature operating room. The team was brought in to determine the extent of damage and worked with the facility's infection control specialists to develop an ICRA protocol. The facility's staff and crew were required to be in full protective gear when entering the damaged area. All equipment and materials were fully disinfected before being allowed into the area.

Patients were relocated and STARC Systems' ICRA Class IV compliant temporary containment panels were installed to isolate the affected space and establish and maintain negative air pressure required throughout the entire remediation and renovation process.

Cleanable, reusable, easily installed containment is an essential part of an effective ICRA protocol. Sound-attenuating barrier systems with a permanent, real-wall appearance that seamlessly integrate into a renovation/remediation space, are essential in promoting and maintaining positive patient satisfaction scores. Utilizing STARC containment systems with advanced disinfection/decontamination technologies in tandem with ICRA protocols provides optimal, efficient risk management and infection control results.

Operations in both spaces were able to continue without interference or distraction due to the development and execution of an ICRA protocol that included trained, skilled personnel and state-of-the-art tools and technologies.

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From top: Assessment and remediation of water damage being performed in a temporary STARC containment system. > Remediation and renovation performed with a STARC containment system and negative air.